

Preventing the occurrence and spread of aquatic weed infestations in South Carolina waters can save millions of public and private dollars each year in avoided control costs.

### South Carolina Noxious Weed List

Alligatorweed Brazilian elodea Common reed Eurasian watermilfoil Hvdrilla \* Purple loosestrife Slender naiad Water chestnut Water hvacinth Water lettuce Water primrose African oxygen weed \* Ambulia \* Arrowhead \* Arrow-leaved monochoria \*

**Duck-lettuce \*** Exotic bur reed \* Giant salvinia \*

Mediterranean caulerpa \* Melaleuca \* Miramar weed \* Pickerel weed \* Mosquito fern \* Rooted water hyacinth \* Water spinach \*

Wetland nightshade \*

\* Also on the Federal Noxious Weed List

Alternanthera philoxeroides

Egeria densa

Phragmites australis Myriophyllum spicatum Hydrilla verticallata Lythrum salicaria

Najas minor Trapa natans

Eichhornia crassipes

Pistia stratiotes Ludwigia hexapetala Lagarosiphon major

Limnophila sessiltjlora Sagittaria sagittifolia Monochoria hastata Ottelia alismoides

Sparganium erectum Salvinia molesta, S. biloba,

S. herzogii, S. auriculata Caulerpa taxifolia

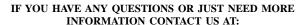
Melaleuca quinquenervia Hygrophila polysperma Monochoria vaginalis

Azolla pinnata Eichhornia azurea Ipomoea aquatica Solanum tampicense

# **Special Salvinia Alert!**



## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT IN SOUTH CAROLINA?



http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/water/envaff/aquatic/index.html E-mail: pagec@dnr.sc.gov



Aquatic Nuisance Species Program 2730 Fish Hatchery Road West Columbia, SC 29172 Phone (803)755-2836



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#### **Giant Salvinia**

Giant salvinia (Salvinia molesta), which is prohibited in South Carolina and the United States by State and Federal law, has invaded water bodies in parts of North Carolina close to the South Carolina border. South Carolina waterways, especially in the coastal plain, are very susceptible to invasion by this plant.

Giant salvinia can spread rapidly by fragmentation or spore production and can easily be a contaminant traveling with other aquatic plants or animals. This plant can double it's coverage in less than a week! It forms dense mats which interfere with boating, fishing and recreational activities as well as degrade water quality by reducing oxygen levels and displacing desirable plant species.

If you see this plant call the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources at 803-755-2836 or E-mail: pagec@dnr.sc.gov

#### **Identification of this Plant**



Photo courtesy of R. Helton, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

A native of South America, Giant salvinia is a small, free floating aquatic fern. It usually appears as branched stems with floating leaves in whorls of 3. Floating leaves are light to medium green, suborbicular, and 1/2 to 1 inch long and wide. The upper surface is covered with dense, stiff white hairs with distinct "egg beater" shaped tips.

Salvinia molesta can be differentiated from the more benign Salvinia minima by the shape of the surface hairs. Salvinia molesta has a characteristic "egg beater" or "bird cage" tip on the hairs.



Salvinia minima (surface hairs)



Salvinia molesta (surface hairs)

### How you can help!

Aquatic weed problems are caused primarily by boaters and fishermen unknowingly spreading aquatic weeds from one lake to another and homeowners disposing of water garden and aquarium plants in public waters and private ponds. You can help control the spread of nuisance aquatic plants by doing the following:

#### When you leave a body of water:

- ♦Remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment.
- ♦Eliminate water from equipment before transporting.
- ♦Clean and dry anything that comes into contact with water (boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.).
- ♦ Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.
- ◆Report aquatic weed problems in public waters to the Aquatic Nuisance Species Program, SCDNR (1-803-755-2836).



REPORT ALL SIGHTINGS TO SCDNR AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES STAFF AT 803-755-2836 OR THE NATIONAL HOT LINE AT 1-877-STOP-ANS